

Message Text

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63

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: MOVEMENT OF GRAIN FROM COTONOU TO GAO

ROME FOR FODAG; PARIS FOR HELMAN; BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN

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REF: BAMAKO 1629

1. APPRECIATE EMBASSY/BAMAKO DESIRE INCREASE COTONOU-GAO SHIPMENTS. BELIEVE WE NEED MAKE ALL EFFORTS CONTINUE SUPPLY MALI UTILIZING CONVENTIONAL MEANS AS COST-EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO AIRLIFT.

2. AID/W AGREEABLE TO MOVE ADDITIONAL GRAIN FROM COTONOU TO GAO. ONLY SOURCE STOCKS NOW IN COTONOU OR PARADOU DESTINED NIGER.

3. NO ADDITIONAL SHIPMENTS BAGGED GRAIN PLANNED OUT OF FY 1974 ALLOCATION WITH EXCEPTION 1,667 MT FOR WORLD FOOD PROGRAM FOR NIGER ARRIVING COTONOU JULY 16 ON DELTA URUGUAY. NO ADDITIONAL CARGO CAN BE SENT THIS FY COTONOU FOR EITHER MALI OR NIGER. ASSUME STOCKS NOW IN COTONOU AND PARAKOU ADEQUATE TO SUPPLY BOTH COUNTRIES THROUGH END JULY. WE ARE PLANNING SEND ADDITIONAL FOOD TO COTONOU IN AUGUST FROM FY 1975 ALLOCATION.

4. COMPENSATION FOR NIGER COULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH

INCREASED BULK SHIPMENTS APAPA FY 1974 (IF NECESSARY, SOME GRAIN COULD BE TRUCKED FROM APAPA TO COTONOU FOR TRANSIT NIGER) OR PLANNED BAGGED SHIPMENTS COTONOU EARLY FY 1975.

5. ACTION REQUESTED:

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO, COTONOU, NIAMEY - ADVISE STATUS GRAIN ALREADY SENT COTONOU-GAO.

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO - ADVISE AMOUNT GRAIN WHICH CAN BE MOVED AND ABSORBED VIA COTONOU-GAO ROUTE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TIMING SHIPMENTS.

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY - ADVISE IF DIVERSION GRAIN FOR MALI ACCEPTABLE TO GON. PLEASE ADVIS: GON PREFERENCE FOR MODE OF COMPENSATION.

AMEMBASSY COTONOU - CAN SHIPMENTS TO MALI/NIGER BE AUGMENTED AND BOTTLENECK PARAKOU BE OBVIATED BY DIRECT TRUCK SHIPMENT FROM COTONOU AS AGAINST PRESENT RAIL/TRUCK TRANSSHIPMENT OPERATION. KISSINGER

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